See Jenny's suggestion below.

Blair Taylor
President
Memphis Tomorrow
22 North Front Street, Suite 670
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btaylor@memphistomorrow.org

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From: Koltnow, Jenny [mailto:Jenny.Koltnow@autozone.com]
Sent: Friday, June 2, 2017 7:39 AM
To: Blair Taylor <btaylor@memphistomorrow.org>
Subject: Re: Crime Commission Update

Thanks. (I wish they had a more attention grabbing subject line!)

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 1, 2017, at 10:04 PM, Blair Taylor <btaylor@memphistomorrow.org> wrote:


Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse typos.

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Memphis Shelby Crime Commision <lrussell@memphiscrime.org>
**Date:** June 1, 2017 at 4:50:34 PM CDT
**To:** <btaylor@memphistomorrow.org>
**Subject: Crime Commission Update**
**Reply-To:** Memphis Shelby Crime Commision <lrussell@memphiscrime.org>

**May 2017 - Volume 6**          View this email in your browser

# MEMPHIS VIOLENT CRIME RATE COMPARED TO MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT (MPD) OFFICER COUNT/UPCOMING VOTE ON MPD BUDGET
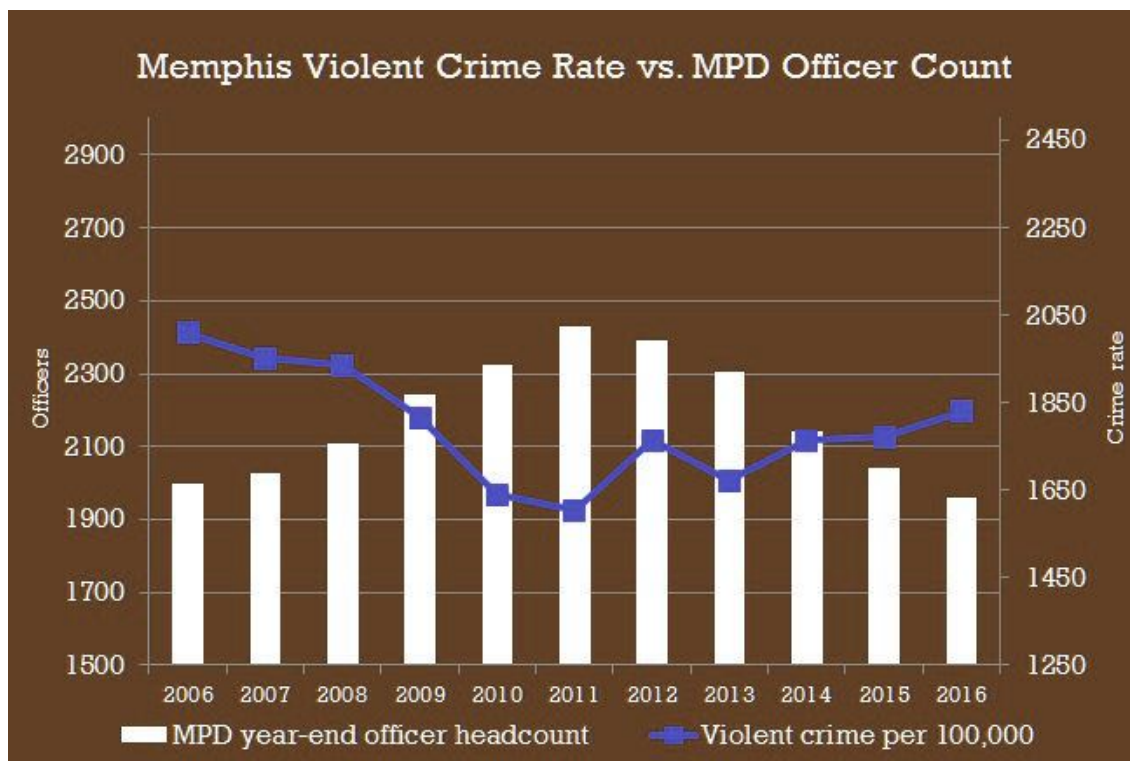
For the first time since 2011, the Memphis Police Department (MPD) is on the verge of a net increase in the number of police officers.

The Operation: Safe Community crime plan calls for (1) addressing shortages in law enforcement staffing, (2) a continued and renewed commitment to the use of resources in a smart, data-driven manner, and (3)a zero-based staffing assessment to confirm the optimal staffing allocations and complement size.

A look at the data shows a correlation between the number of MPD officers available to deploy in a data-driven manner and Memphis' violent crime rate. *As reflected in the accompanying chart*, Memphis witnessed a low point in its violent crime rate in 2011, the same year MPD reached it's maximum number of officers available for data-driven deployment.  Likewise, significant lower police staffing was accompanied by higher violent crime rates.

The Crime Commission has been working closely with the City of Memphis to address retention and recruitment challenges facing MPD.  Mayor Strickland and his administration have made the staffing needs of MPD a top funding priority.

The Memphis City Council is scheduled to vote on the city budget next Tuesday, June 6 for the fiscal year beginning July 1.  It is an opportunity for Council members to show their support for the necessary funding to advance in a meaningful way the staffing needs of MPD and increase police resources available to deploy based on smart, data-driven decision making.

Memphis Violent Crime Rate vs. MPD Officer Count

## *CONTACT INFORMATION FOR MEMPHIS CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS*

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# *MOVING FORWARD ON THE OPERATION: SAFE COMMUNITY (OSC) CRIME PLAN*

Five months into the new Operation: Safe Community crime plan, we are making progress on several fronts.

District Attorney Amy Weirich's Community Prosecution model is showing promise.  Part of the new plan that began in January includes prosecutors assigned to the Old Allen and Tillman Memphis Police Department (MPD) precincts to establish partnerships in those communities to help fight crime.  Serious crime has dropped in those two precincts in recent months.

For the first time since 2011, we should see a net increase in Memphis police officers.  Through both recruitment of new officers and stepped-up efforts to retain officers, we are turning the corner in addressing the staffing needs of local law enforcement.

Almost 20 percent of those arrested for crimes with guns in our community are convicted felons who are not suppose to be toting guns!  As part of the new crime plan, Senator Mark Norris took the lead in enacting state legislation providing for tougher enhanced sentences for convicted felons possessing guns whose prior convictions are for violent crimes or felony drug offenses.  This gives us a more effective state tool to deal with too many guns on our streets, along with the existing effective federal tool.  If convicted felons continue making the bad choice of carrying guns, they will be held accountable either through existing tough federal law or the new tougher state law.  But the real goal here is to change behavior by convincing convicted felons to stop toting guns.

I'm encouraged by the steps we are taking which can have a positive impact.  As a community, we must show a healthy sense of urgency to move forward in our implementation of the Operation: Safe Community crime plan.

Bill Gibbons, President

# *WEAR ORANGE FRIDAY*
# *JUNE 2nd*

*Friday, June 2nd* is the third annual National Gun Violence Prevention Day, also known as *Wear Orange*.  This is a special day to honor the lives of those Americans killed by gun violence and show a commitment to curb gun violence in our nation.  It is the birthday of Hadiya Pendleton, who was shot to death at age 15 in Chicago in 2015.

On *Saturday, June 3rd*, the Regional One Health Trauma Center and Moms Demand Action will spearhead *a free community picnic from noon - 2:00 p.m. in Robert Church Park* at the corner of Beale and Fourth as an opportunity for citizens to come together and show unity in our efforts to curb gun violence.  The public is invited.

paa